IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, as follows:

1. (original): Apparatus for blocking and releasing a door lock of an electrical appliance, comprising:

- a blocking and release unit (12), which in a blocking state blocks a locked door lock (2) of an electrical appliance and in a release state enables unlocking of the door lock, and

- an emergency release unit (14), which in an abnormal operating state of the electrical appliance brings the blocking and release unit (12) into the release state.

2. (previously amended): Apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that:

- the blocking and release unit (12) assumes the blocking state by means of a working connection to the door lock (2) in response to locking of the latter.

3. (previously amended): Apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that:

- the blocking and release unit (12) assumes the release state in an operating state of the electrical appliance, for which an unlocking of the door lock (2) is desirable and/or permissible.

4. (previously amended): Apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that:

- the blocking and release unit (12) comprises an electromagnetic actuator (16) for a crossover from the blocking state into the release state.

5. (original): Apparatus according to claim 4, characterized in that:

- the electromagnetic actuator (16) is designed to effect a crossover from the release state into the blocking state.

6. (previously amended): Apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that:

- the emergency release unit (14) has an idle state and a working state, wherein the emergency release unit (14) in the event of a crossover from the working state into the idle state brings the blocking and release unit (12) into the release state.

7. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that:

the emergency release unit (14) assumes a ~~the~~ working state by means of a working connection to the blocking and release unit (12) in response to a crossover of the latter into the blocking state.

8. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that:

the emergency release unit (14) assumes a ~~the~~ working state in a controlled manner when the blocking and release unit (12) is situated in the blocking state or before the blocking and release unit (12) assumes the blocking state.

9. (previously amended): Apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that:

- during normal operation of the electrical appliance the emergency release unit (14) assumes an ~~its~~ idle state in response to a crossover of the blocking and release unit (12) from the blocking state into the release state.

10. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that:

the emergency release unit (14) comprises an actuator (50) for effecting a crossover into a ~~the~~ working state and a force-generating element (46) for effecting a crossover into an ~~the~~ idle state.

11. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that:

the emergency release unit (14) comprises an actuator (50) for effecting a crossover into an ~~the~~ idle state and a force-generating element (46) for effecting a crossover into a ~~the~~ working state.

12. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim ~~1~~ 11, characterized in that:

the force-generating element (46) is a spring.

13. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim ~~1~~ 11, characterized in that:

the actuator (50) is a heat-sensitive element, a thermoelement or a wax motor.

14. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim ~~1~~ 11, characterized in that:

the emergency release unit (14) comprises an energy supply device for the actuator (50), which device is designed to supply energy to the actuator (50) for activating the latter in the event of abnormal operation of the electrical appliance.

15. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 1, characterized by:

- a release device for the emergency release unit (14), which device in dependence upon

parameters characterizing an abnormal operating state of the electrical appliance allows a crossover of the emergency release unit (14) into an ~~the~~ idle state.

16. (previously added): Apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that:

the blocking and release unit (12) in a locked state of the door lock (2) assumes the blocking state in a controlled manner.